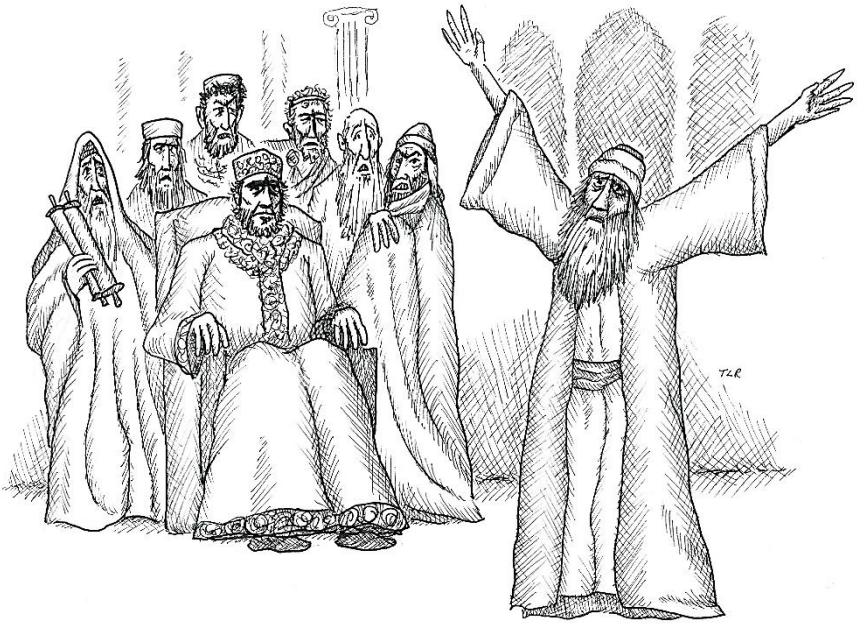


# Christmas in Old Testament Prophecy:

## “The House of Bread”

*A Study in Micah 5:1-6*



*“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.’”*

*-Matthew 2:1-2 (LSB)*

Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA  
December 17<sup>th</sup>, AD 2023

# The LORD'S Day

The Seventeenth Day of December, *in the Year of our Lord 2023*

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Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!



## Sunday School—9:30 AM.



“God chose a stable so no innkeeper could boast, “He chose the comfort of my inn!” God chose a manger so that no wood worker could boast, “He chose the craftsmanship of my bed!” He chose Bethlehem so no one could boast, “The greatness of our city constrained the divine choice!” And He chose you and me, freely and unconditionally, to stop the mouth of all human boasting.”—Dr. John Piper

## Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:\* *“Go Tell it on the Mountain”* (#127, Chorus).

Invocation.\*

Hymn: *“We Three Kings”* (#134).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Micah 5:1-6; Matt. 2:1-6.

Prayer, Praises, and Testimony.

Special Music (Anna Mason): *“Heavenly Hosts.”*

Announcements.

Hymn: *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* (#128).

Dismissal of Youth for Children’s Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *“THE HOUSE OF BREAD (Studies in Micah 5:1-6).”*

Closing Hymn:\* *“What Child is this?”* (#126).

Benediction.\*



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*\*The Congregation will please arise, if able.*



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## Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study: 6:30 PM

Please join us for our midweek service, as we continue with studying Daniel & the Lion's Den (Dan. 6).



**Week of Dec. 10 – Dec. 16**

Sunday School—6; Morning Worship—I9;

Midweek—4; Weekly Offering—\$940.<sup>00</sup>

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## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Our special candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be on **Sunday evening, Dec. 24**, at **7:00 PM**. Please invite friends to share in the worship of our wonderful Savior and in the warmth of traditional carols, special readings, and in the glow of our collective fellowship.



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### OUTLINE for today's Study in Micah 5:1-6

- I. A remarkable prophecy, predicting the exact place of His birth—uttered 700 yrs. *before* His coming! **Micah 5:1-6** was *always* recognized by the Jews as a reference to *Messiah* (Matt. 2:4-5; John 7:42).
- II. **Background (5:1)**: Israel's kings and leadership had failed them!
- III. But **MESSIAH** is coming **(5:2)**—*He will not fail!* He is God's Man!
  - A. He will be born in humble little Bethlehem—David's hometown!
  - B. He is TRUE HUMANITY: He will be *born*, like other men...
  - C. But He is also TRUE DEITY: He has existed from *Eternity!*
- IV. **Despite initial rejection by His people, Messiah will ultimately reclaim and redeemed Israel (5:3)**—cf., Rom. 11:25-26, Zech. 12:10.
- V. **The majestic glory of His universal, worldwide reign (5:4)**! A true shepherd who provides for His flock; all godless opposition will vanish.
- VI. He is our **SHALOM (5:5-6)**, bringing us Peace with both God & Man!

Cover art: *"The House of Bread"* by Pastor Terry L. Reese

## Africa Update



**From: Pastor Keith Merriman; Dateline: Dec. 11, 2023.**

Dear beloved brethren,

I spoke with Pastor Simon Peter Otudo (East Uganda); his wife Margaret is having trouble with her knee and hip in the leg that was bitten by the black mamba and she also broke in a motorcycle accident. Margaret is very worried she could lose her leg! She is scheduled to see a specialist soon. Please pray for peace for her and that she would not have to have her leg amputated.

Please continue to be in prayer as pastor Daniel Miller and I make preparations for our trip to Africa January 17th. I am having serious problems getting a visa for Cameroon. It is a glitch in the payment process and it can only be done online. I have contacted the Cameroon Embassy in Washington DC multiple times by phone and email no responses! Please pray they will contact me this week.

By the way thanks again for all your prayers and gifts!!

*God bless, Keith*



**From: Pastor Keith Merriman; Dateline: Dec. 13, 2023.**

Dear beloved brethren, greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I just spoke with pastor Simon Peter Otudo (East Uganda); his wife Margaret went to see the specialist and she was given a knee-hip brace and put on some medication. She is feeling a little relief. She must see the specialist again next week, so keep praying for wisdom for the doctors and healing for Margaret.

Also the National Conference for the Grace Brethren churches in Cameroon begins tomorrow. Please pray for journey-mercies and for God's blessing on all who attend. It will run through the weekend. It will take place in Ngaoundere this year.

*God bless, Keith*

